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obtained from the open market. The question of permitting local bodies to purchase their medicines in the open market does not therefore arise.

(c) Some taluk boards have proposed the closure of a few medical institutions for want of funds.

Selection of Christians and members of the Depressed Classes for admission into the Rayapuram Medical School in 1931 and 1932.

* 250 Q.—Mr. M. DEVADASAN: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) how many candidates applied for admission into the Medical School at Rayapuram in 1931 and 1932;

(b) whether there were Christians and depressed classes among the applicants in the said years 1931 and 1932;

(c) how many of them were chosen in each category; and

(d) how many of them were disqualified and, if so, on what grounds?

A.—(a)—

1931.	1932.
328	359

(b) Yes.

(c)—

	1931.	1932.
Christians	5	7
Depressed classes ..	3	4

(d)—

	1931.	1932.
Christians	71	33
Depressed classes ..	13	12

The candidates were disqualified for one or other of the reasons specified below :—

(1) Overage ;

(2) marks obtained in English in the S.S.L.C. Examination being below 40 per cent ;

(3) unwillingness to join as private pupils ; and

(4) ineligibility for college course.

Mr. M. DEVADASAN :—" May I know why age restriction has been placed upon stipendiary students seeking admission into the Rayapuram Medical School? "

The hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI :—" Such restrictions apply only to stipendiary students and not to private students, because in the interests of service it is considered necessary to have some age limit."

Mr. M. DEVADASAN :—" May I know if female candidates are selected and, if so, how many? "

The hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI :—" I am afraid I cannot quote actual figures. But I may say that a selection is made from female candidates."

Mr. M. DEVADASAN:—"May I know whether the hon. Minister will be pleased to show some concessions to the Depressed Class candidates in admitting them to the Rayapuram Medical School?"

The hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"In answer to a previous question at the last sitting of the Council I said that, in consultation with the Surgeon-General, the Government would consider the desirability of giving some concessions to the Depressed Class candidates when sufficient number of students are not forthcoming."

Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR:—"May I know whether it is not desirable to fix the eligibility standard as the minimum standard for admission into the Rayapuram Medical School, because for some years the average number of marks in English for the S.S.L.C. may be high and for some years low?"

The hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"There has been no difficulty in getting sufficient number of applications for admission into the Rayapuram Medical School. I do not think there is any necessity for lowering the qualifications of students. In the case of communities where we find sufficient number of students are not available the Government will consider the question of lowering the qualification."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"May I know what the rules are which guide the Selection Committee in reserving seats for minority communities without higher qualifications which are necessary in the case of others?"

The hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"At present, if I remember right a definite proportion has been fixed for each community but if the Selection Committee reports to the Government that they are not able to get a sufficient number of candidates from a particular community, the Government will consider the question of relaxing the rule."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"May I know whether the authorities of this school are satisfied that they are getting sufficient number of these students?" 11-15 a.m.

The hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"I have no information to the contrary."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Will the hon. the Minister kindly call for the information?"

The hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"Certainly, Sir."

Prospect of opening a Medical School at Guntur.

* 251 *Q.*—Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state whether the Government have finally abandoned all ideas of opening a Medical School at Guntur?

A.—Yes.